

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

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TAGS: BENC, MY

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECTS: AIRPORTS

REF: A. STATE 121391; B. 1975 KUALA LUMPUR 937

1. AS REQUESTED REF A, UPDATED STATUS REPORT ON
SANDAKAN, SUBANG AND SARAWAK AIRPORT PROJECTS FOLLOWS:

A. SANDAKAN AIRPORT PROJECT

THE PROJECT CONSISTS OF A NEW RUNWAY 6,500 FT BY 500 FT
AND A PARKING APRON OF 1,000 FT BY 400 FT, A NEW
TERMINAL BUILDING, OPERATIONS BLOCK, CONTROL TOWER AND
OTHER ANCILLARY FACILITIES. THE PROJECT WILL ENABLE
BOEING 737'S AND EQUIVALENT AIRCRAFT TO LAND AT SANDAKAN
WHICH IS CURRENTLY SERVED BY F27. ACCORDING TO SOURCES
AT MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, TENDERS FOR CONSULTANTS
FOR DETAILED INVESTIGATION, DESIGN AND SUPERVISION OF
THE PROJECT WILL BE CALLED LATER THIS YEAR. THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE SANDAKAN AIRPORT BEGAN IN 1974 WITH
STRUCTURAL REPAIRS TO THE EXISTING RUNWAY BY PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT TO KEEP IT OPERATIONAL FOR FOKKER
FRIENDSHIP AIRCRAFT AND THIS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE
NEW RUNWAY IS BUILT. WORK ON THE IMPROVEMENTS OF
THE EXISTING TERMINAL BUILDING ALSO BEGAN IN 1974
WITH TEMPORARY EXTENSION AND RENOVATION COMPLETED
THE SAME YEAR TO PROVIDE FOR BETTER FACILITIES TO
THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC UNTIL THE NEW TERMINAL BUILDING
IS BUILT.

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B) SARAWAK AIRPORTS PROJECT

THE ORIGINAL PROVISION OF M\$ 12.4 MILLION FOR AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT IN THE STATE OF SARAWAK UNDER THE SECOND MALAYSIA PLAN (1970-1975) WAS INCREASED TO M\$30.9 MILLION DURING THE MID TERM REVIEW (1972). WORK TO BUILD ACROSS ROADS AND TO EXTEND THE RUNWAY OF THE KUCHING AIRPORT TO ACCOMMODATE BOEING 707 AIRCRAFT IS NOW IN PROGRESS. THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS NOW CARRYING OUT THE WORK OF EXTENSION OF THE MIRI AIRPORT RUNWAY WHICH AFTER COMPLETION WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE BOEING 737 AIRCRAFT.

C) SUBANG AIRPORT PROJECT

IN 1971, THE CONSULTANTS OF ACRES-SWR CONSORTIUM OF TORONTO FOUND THAT AIR TRAFFIC IN SUBANG AIRPORT WAS INCREASING AT A PACE FASTER THAN EXISTING FACILITIES

COULD COPE WITH. THE CONSULTANTS ALSO FOUND THAT SUBANG TERMINAL BUILDING SHOULD BE RE-DESIGNED TO HANDLE AN ESTIMATED PEAK HOUR TRAFFIC OF 2,600 PASSENGERS BY 1983. OTHER RECOMMENDED MODIFICATIONS INCLUDED LANDING AND ACROSS TAXIWAY SYSTEM FOR LONG-BODIED AIRCRAFT, ELECTRICAL POSER DISTRIBUTION, DRAINAGE SYSTEMS AND WATER DISTRIBUTION. NEW FACILITIES SHOULD INCLUDE CARGO COMPLEX, ANIMAL AND PLANT QUARANTINE STATIONS, A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT AND AIRPORT WASTE INCINERATOR, CENTRAL UTILITIES BUILDING, FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING AREA AND A FULL STORAGE. IN 1974, AIRWAYS ENGINEERING OF U.S.A. WAS AWARDED THE CONTRACT TO UNDERTAKE THE CONSULTANT WORKS FOR MASTER PLAN AND ENGINEERING DESIGN. HOWEVER, AIRWAYS ENGINEERING SUSPENDED WORK ABOUT ONE-HALF THROUGH

OF THE PROJECT BECAUSE OF DISPUTE WITH GOM OVER CMTH# S#

AME HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT AIRWAYS ENGINEERING AND GOM HAVE ALMOST RESOLVED DIFFICULTIES AND THAT U.S. FIRM MAY RETURN TO PROJECT IN NEAR FUTURE. SO FAR, THE MAJOR WORKS COMPLETED ARE THE CONSTRUCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE OPERATION DOCK.

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NOTE BY OC/T: KUALA LUMPUR 2953 #AS RECEIVED, CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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